

The Hornet's Buzz

Jackson Township Elementary

April 2024

A Note From the Principal

Dear Parents,

April 30, 2024

April has been a busy month at Jackson Township! Our kindergarten, first grade, and second grade are completing the IReady Spring assessment, and the results will be sent home with report cards at the end of the year. Looking at the data from the Reading portion of IReady, I am very pleased as there has been significant growth in reading this school year in our primary grades! Not everyone has completed the math portion, but I am confident that we will see significant growth in math as well. Third, fourth, and fifth grade students are finishing up ILEARN. As you know, the data we receive from standardized assessments provides us with valuable information that helps us target specific deficiencies in instruction and student achievement. Our students generally do well. I am looking forward to seeing how well our students perform this year!

Kindergarten Roundup, field trips, and the great eclipse of 2024 were all awesome events shared by JTE students. As we begin the month of May, we look forward to all of our students being treated to a movie at the Walnut Theater as a celebration of the end of standardized testing for the school year. We also look forward to our normal end of the year activities - Field Day, Minute To Win It, Webster's Wax Museum, and the 4th grade Indianapolis 500 parade through our halls. We still have lots of work to do before the end of the year, but as you can see we also have some fun activities planned! **Regular attendance is extremely important.** We only have a few more days to go!!!!

As always, your support and involvement in your child's education are greatly appreciated!

Sincerely,
Brad Ennen
Principal, JTE



Proud to be a Hornet!!!

Schedule of Events

- May 9 PTO Meeting @ 2:35 pm in the Art Room
- May 13 Field Day
- May 14 Field Day—Rain Date
- May 16 5th Grade Awards/Wax Museum
- May 21 Student Last Day/Report Cards sent home
- Aug. 7 First Student Day 24/25 School Year

May 2024 Newsletter



WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 7, Movie day 1st group
- May 9, PTO meeting 2:35
- May 13, Field day (15th for rain day)
- May 14, Movie day, 2nd group
- May 14, Minute To Win It
- May 21, Last day of School

**PLEASE SEND IN FORMS IF YOU ARE INTERESTED
IN A SPOT ON THE PTO BOARD!!!**

2023- 2024 Officers

- President - Megan Mason
- Vice President - Megan Rubeck
- Treasurer - Brittney Morris
- Secretary - Kara Syx
- Parent Rep - Jessica Olah
- Teacher Rep - Lillie Yocom
- Non - Teacher Rep - Kari McNeely

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www.boxtops4education.com

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Kroger Rewards add up! Add JTE to your Kroger card!

1. Go to www.kroger.com
2. Click on Community Rewards under the Community heading.
3. Choose an organization to support - *Jackson Township #62405*



Parenting Practicalities

From the Principal's Desk



The ***Parenting Practicalities*** section is designed to provide you with common-sense tips on your most important role, that of being a **PARENT**.

BENEFITS OF OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

Robyn Bjornson, executive assistant at the **Children and Nature Network**, says in general, children spend a lot less time outdoors than they used to.

She says this lack of time spent playing outside in the fresh air can be harmful to a child's wellbeing.

"It damages physical and mental health, contributing to nature-deficit disorder, which is the term used to describe the human costs of alienation from nature."

Spending time in natural surroundings stimulates children's creativity.

Bjornson says there are many positive health benefits associated with outdoor activities for children.

"Children who regularly experience nature play are healthier, happier, and test better in school," Bjornson says. "Studies indicate that direct exposure to nature can relieve the symptoms of attention-deficit disorders, improve resistance to stress and depression, increase self-esteem, stimulate cognitive development and creativity, as well as reduce myopia and lower child obesity."

Preston agrees that outdoor activities for children offer countless benefits for kids' overall wellbeing.

"Spending time in natural surroundings stimulates children's creativity," Preston says. "Spending time outdoors also encourages children to actively play, which is good for them, rather than spend time focused on electronic media, television, and video games."

Exploring nature is a great way for a family to spend time together and enjoy some healthy activities, Bjornson says.

"Hiking, walking, beach play, camping, birding, tree climbing, fishing, gardening, sailing, are just a few of the endless ways to enjoy nature," Bjornson says. "And there are more ways in your own backyard or neighborhood."

Though it can be challenging for parents to convince their children that spending time outdoors can be just as much fun as playing video games and watching television, Bjornson says it is important to make outdoor time a priority.

For parents looking for other families interested in outdoor activities for children, Bjornson suggests looking for a local **Family Nature Club** or downloading a **toolkit** from the Children and Nature Network to get started.

Author: **Laura Jerpi**